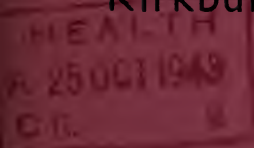


LIBRARY

Kirkburton Urban District Council



# ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

for the year

1942





Kirkburton Urban District Council



# ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

for the year

1942



KIRKBURTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

---

# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

For the Year 1942.

---

Lepton,  
September 1st, 1943.

*To the Chairman and Members of the Kirkburton Urban  
District Council.*

Sir and Gentlemen,

I here present my annual report for the year ending December 31st, 1942. The work of the Sanitary Department has suffered owing to extraneous duties imposed on your inspector: Salvage; Petrol control; Food decontamination; A.R.P. ambulance; Supervising Billeting of evacuees. I am still of the opinion that the department is understaffed. A large proportion, about two-thirds of your inspector's time being spent in office work, to the detriment of regular inspections of the area. I am surprised he has been able to do as much as has been done, shewn in his detailed report of inspection.

## **Statistics of Social Conditions of the Area.**

Officers: A. Tait, M.B., Part-time, M.O.H.; John Hewitt, A.R.San.I., Sanitary Inspector; Mrs. B. Law, Billeting Officer and Typist to the Sanitary Department.

**Area.**—14,577 acres.

**Population.**—Registrar-General's estimated mid 1942 18,040. Excluding Storthes Hall Mental Hospital population the estimated mid 1942 population is 14,450.

**Rateable value and sum represented by a penny rate.**  
respectively £70,702 10s.—£294 11s. 8d.

		M.	F.	Total.	
<b>Live Births</b> —	Legitimate ...	94	101	195	
	Illegitimate ...	10	2	12	
	Total ...	104	103	207	
		Rate per 1,000			14.2.
<b>Still Births</b> —	Legitimate ...	11	8	19	
	Illegitimate ...	1	0	1	
	Total ...	12	8	20	
		Rate per 1,000			1.3.
<b>Deaths</b>	... ..	112	91	203	
		Rate per 1,000			12.9.

The total number 203 includes 56 inward transfers of persons belonging to, but dying outside the area, and 16 deaths in Storthes Hall Mental Hospital which could not be allocated to any other area. The death rate is calculated on the figure excluding these 16 deaths and on the estimated mid 1942 Population of 14,450. The corresponding figures for England and Wales are: Live Births 15.8. Deaths 11.6. Still Births 1.3. Infantile Mortality .49.

#### **Deaths from puerperal causes—**

Puerperal Sepsis 0.      Other Causes 2.

#### **Deaths of Infants under one year—**

All Infants per 1,000 live births ... ..	48
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate births ...	35
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate births	0
Deaths from Cancer ... ..	35
Deaths from Measles ... ..	0
Deaths from Whooping Cough ... ..	0
Deaths from Diarrhoea under 2 years ... ..	0

The deaths recorded in the district corrected with the inward and outward transfers are recorded in the following table, classified in the sixteen commonest causes and allocated to the different wards.

The death rate is lower than last year but still above that for England and Wales and the birth rate has dropped to below that for England and Wales. The

Infant Mortality rate is satisfactory, 48 compared with 49 for England and Wales. Diseases of the Heart and Arteries accounted for 90 of the deaths; and Cancer for 35, more than double last year's 80 deaths were in persons 70 years of age and upwards.

**Table A.**

	Flockton	Kirkheaton	Kirkburton	Lepton	Shelley	Shepley	Thurstonland	Farnley Tyas	Whitley Upper	Total
Diseases of Heart and Circulation	2	6	25	17	7	7	4	1	1	69
Bronchitis and Pneumonia	—	—	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	5
Cancer	3	1	8	10	4	6	3	—	—	35
Cerebral Hemorrhage	4	3	2	2	5	4	1	—	—	21
Violent Deaths	3	—	1	1	2	2	—	1	1	11
<i>Suicide</i>	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
<i>Others</i>	3	—	1	1	2	1	—	1	1	10
Tuberculosis	—	—	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	3
<i>Pulmonary</i>	—	—	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	2
<i>Non-Pulmonary</i>	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Diseases of Digestive System	—	1	1	1	—	4	—	—	1	8
Congenital Debility	1	2	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	5
Influenza	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute and Chronic Nephritis	—	4	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	7
Diabetes	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	—	1	1	5	4	—	1	1	1	14
Other Defined Diseases	—	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	6
Causes Undefined	2	1	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
Total	16	19	41	41	26	27	9	4	4	187

## **General Provision of Health Services for the Area.**

**Laboratory Facilities**—The County Laboratory at Wakefield performs all the necessary examinations, swabs, water and milk samples, etc.

**Ambulances**—Infectious Cases removed by the Mill Hill Isolation Hospital Ambulance with bedding, etc. General and Accident: Motor Ambulance at Hepworth's Garage. Kirkburton, subsidized by the L.A. and the Huddersfield Hospital Contributory Scheme Ambulance are available to contributors. The ambulance service has been and is efficient for the area in normal times.

**Nursing in the Home**—With exception of Flockton, Whitley Upper, Farnley Tyas and Thurstonland, the district is adequately served by the District Nursing Associations in Lepton, Kirkburton, Shepley and Kirkheaton.

**Clinics**—Ante-Natal and Child Welfare: Two W.R.C.C. Clinics are held at Kirkburton, Dogley Chapel and Lepton, Cowms Chapel. Tuesdays 2—4. Ante-natal Clinic at Lepton third Thursday 2—4.

**Tuberculosis**—W.R.C.C. Clinic at 1, Peel Street, Huddersfield, Tuesday and Friday 2—4. X-ray examinations at Medical Centre, Greenups Terrace, Sowerby Bridge, by appointment.

**V.D. Clinic** held at Royal Infirmary Huddersfield, Men and Women, Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, 6—8-30. Wednesday 10—12 noon.

**Hospitals**—The district is served by the following institutions in the neighbouring townships:

**Infectious Diseases**—Mill Hill Isolation Hospital, Huddersfield.

**General and Accident**—Huddersfield Royal Infirmary, Dewsbury Royal Infirmary, Clayton Hospital, Wakefield.

**Maternity Cases**—Huddersfield Borough Maternity Home, Greenhead; Dewsbury Borough Maternity Home; Staincliffe County Hospital, Dewsbury; White Rose County Hospital, Wakefield; Memorial Hospital, Holmfirth.

The Staincliffe and White Rose Hospitals are also available for the sick, poor and other classes without

distinction. Abnormal maternity cases can be admitted to the Huddersfield Royal Infirmary, Colne and Holme Isolation Hospital and the two municipal Hospitals at Staincliffe and White Rose, Wakefield.

### **Sanitary Circumstances of the District.**

Total number of Inspections ... ..	852
Complaints investigated ... ..	102
Sewage Works and Sewage ... ..	90
Refuse collection and Disposal of Salvage ... ..	180
Cowsheds and Dairies ... ..	67
Evacuation ... ..	93
Meat and Food Inspection ... ..	43
Infectious Diseases ... ..	29
Water supply ... ..	20
A.R.P. ... ..	46
Disinfestation ... ..	33
Inspections under Housing Act ... ..	8
Property under notice ... ..	30
Works in progress ... ..	20
Made efficient ... ..	12
Miscellaneous ... ..	79

### **Summary of Sanitary Improvements effected.**

Privies abolished ... ..	3
Privies converted to W.C.'s ... ..	5
W.C.'s provided in lieu of privies ... ..	6
Vent Shafts provided ... ..	5
Additional W.C.'s provided ... ..	3
Inspection chambers provided ... ..	5
Drains repaired or reconstructed ... ..	9
Sink waste pipes repaired or renewed ... ..	1
Roofs repaired ... ..	5
Eave gutters repaired or renewed ... ..	4
New Gully traps provided ... ..	17
Premises disinfected ... ..	5
Blocked drains liberated and cleaned ... ..	5
Fall pipes renewed or repaired ... ..	8
Sewage disposal plant provided ... ..	1
Flooded cellars drained ... ..	3
Gullies liberated and cleansed ... ..	1
Premises connected to sewer ... ..	1
W.C.'s repaired ... ..	1
Bathrooms provided ... ..	3
Ashpits abolished ... ..	1
New dust bins provided ... ..	49



## Nuisances.

Total number of nuisance inspections ... ..	102
Nuisances found ... ..	100
Nuisances in hand end 1941 ... ..	33
Total needing abatement ... ..	133
Abated in 1942 ... ..	102
Outstanding at end of 1942 ... ..	31
Informal notices served ... ..	44
Informal notices complied with ... ..	44
Statutory notices served ... ..	nil.
Summonses or other legal proceedings ... ..	nil.

## Regulated Buildings, Trades, etc.

There are no Common Lodging Houses, Houses let in lodgings, Canal Boats, Knackers Yards, or Tents and Vans in the district. Offensive Trades 1, Tripe Boiling.

## Drainage and Sewage.

There have been no sewer extensions during the year. The following parts of the district still require sewerage: Kirkburton, Linfit Lane, Thorncliffe, Highwood Lane. Lepton, Little Lepton, Town Bottom and some parts of Flockton, Kirkheaton and Whitley Upper.

There has been no extension of the sewage works, which are generally inadequate—some unsatisfactory samples have been received from the West Riding Rivers Board.

## Closet Accommodation.

Privies with open or covered middins 1583.

Pail or tub closets 79.

Water Closets 2790, Waste Water Closets 7, 2797.

Closets and Privies reconstructed as W.C.'s 2.

Additional Closets in old property as W.C.'s 3.

A Grant of £3 and Dustbin is given by the Council towards the cost of voluntary conversion.

## Scavenging.

Public scavenging is in operation throughout the district. The refuse is disposed of wholly by tipping on the controlled system. The total **nett** cost of collection and disposal of refuse was £2,802.

### **Salvage** (12 months ending 31-3-1943)

The total amount realised from the sale of salvaged materials during the year amounted to £958, consisting of:

Paper ... ..	£817
Ferrous Metals ... ..	63
Non-ferrous metals ... ..	11
Rags ... ..	36
Bones ... ..	11
Rubber ... ..	9
Miscellaneous ... ..	11
	<hr/>
	£958

This is an increase of £300 on the previous year. The total weight of 190 tons is also an increase of 19 tons on last year.

Towards the end of the year there was a marked decrease in the quantity of paper collected.

### **Water Supply.**

The Huddersfield Corporation supply and distribute to part of the area. The Dewsbury Water Board Supply is distributed by the Urban Council. There are two private supplies at Farnley Tyas and Shepley. Dwelling houses on Public Supply 4,750. The quality of the supply has been satisfactory, 11 samples being taken for bacteriological examination with satisfactory results but the quantity has been deficient in the Flockton district.

### **Milk Supply.**

Two registers are kept as required by Section 2 (3) Milk Dairies Amendment Act 1922 for retailers and Cow keepers or wholesale traders. There have been no retailers removed from the register.

Cowkeepers in the district 138. Registered 138.

Total number of cowsheds 195.

Total number of cowsheds inspected 92.

Number of wholesale traders registered 46.

Number of retail milk sellers registered 99.

Many sheds are in need of structural alterations and separate milk rooms required.

Number of licenses in force in the area for :

Production of Tuberculin tested milk 2.

Production of accredited milk 12.

Pasteurising plants 0.

The sampling is done by the W.R.C.C.

### **Housing.**

There has been no work done under the Housing Acts. A complete resurvey of the housing conditions of the area will have to be undertaken if the necessary information for post war reconstruction is to be obtained.

### **Eradication of Bed Bugs.**

Four houses were found infested, two Council houses and two privately owned. There is no increase of infestation in the area.

### **Swimming Baths and Pools.**

There is one privately owned swimming bath open to the public. Capacity 20,000 gallons. The water is sand filtered and chlorinated. Periodic samples are submitted to the County Laboratory.

### **Schools.**

There are 14 elementary schools in the area. All have been visited, some frequently, when infectious cases have occurred in the district affecting or likely to affect the school children. The schools are generally in a satisfactory sanitary condition. No schools have been closed.

### **Mortuaries.**

There are two equipped for post-mortem examinations, one at Town Hall, Kirkburton and one at Lepton Old Council Rooms. There is none for infectious diseases as these cases are now taken to Mill Hill Isolation Hospital.

### **Infectious Disease.**

An outbreak of measles, 170 cases being notified, started in October in Kirkheaton and spread to Kirkburton, Lepton and Flockton, lasting to the end of the year.

An attempt to control it was made by frequent visits to the schools affected advising the teachers to exclude all children with catarrhal symptoms. I don't think it was much use as measles is generally regarded as a very minor illness. "He's nobbut mazzling" being probably a survival of the relief felt when scarlet fever was a much more serious illness than it is to-day.

There were scattered cases of scarlet fever affecting all the wards except Farnley Tyas. With the exception of a small epidemic of 17 cases at Shepley in May to July, the others occurred at intervals throughout the year. Twenty-two cases of Diphtheria were notified, 15 of which occurred in or connected with Storthes Hall Mental Hospital, as were also the 4 cases of Typhoid notified. There were 5 cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis notified apart from those occurring in Storthes Hall Mental Hospital and 6 cases of Non-pulmonary Tuberculosis.

The following tables show the numbers notified from the different wards and numbers sent to hospital, and also the tuberculosis cases with the age incidence for pulmonary and non-pulmonary cases.

# Infectious Diseases.

	Flockton	Kirkburton	Kirkheaton	Lepton	Shelley	Shepley	Thurstonland	Farnley Tyas	Whitley Upper	Total	Removed to Hospital
Scarlet Fever ...	2	9	9	7	2	17	2(1†)	—	2	50	47
Diphtheria ...	—	3†	4	3	—	—	12†	—	—	22	12
Pneumonia ...	4	2	—	10	—	—	1	1	—	18	—
Typhoid ...	—	—	—	—	2†	—	2†	—	—	4†	2†
Paratyphoid ...	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	1
Measles ...	34	37	61	35	—	—	—	—	3	170	1
Whooping Cough ...	2	11	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	13	—
Erysipelas ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Polio-Myelitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	2	—
Dysentery ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	4†	—	—	4†	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—
Tuberculosis ...	1	6	1	2	1	—	5†	—	—	16	—
Pulmonary ...	—	4	—	1	—	—	5†	—	—	10	—
Non-Pulmonary ...	1	2	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	6	—
Total	43	68	75	59	7	17	26	2	6	303	64

† In or from Storthes Hall Mental Hospital.

**Statement of Notifications of Infectious Diseases  
received During the Year 1942.**

**Cases Notified or otherwise ascertained.**

	Non- Civilians	
Smallpox ... ..	—	—
Scarlet Fever ... ..	1	49
Diphtheria—including Mem. Croup ... ..	—	22
Enteric Fever—Typhoid ... ..	—	4
Enteric Fever—Paratyphoid ... ..	—	1
Acute Pneumonia (primary or influenzal) ... ..	—	18
Puerperal Pyrexia ... ..	—	1
Cerebro—Spinal Fever ... ..	—	1
Acute Poliomyelitis ... ..	—	—
Acute Polio-Encephalitis ... ..	—	—
Acute Encephalitis Lethargica ... ..	—	—
Dysentery ... ..	—	4
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ... ..	—	2
Erysipelas ... ..	—	1
Respiratory Tuberculosis (New Cases only) ... ..	—	10
Other Forms of Tuberculosis (New Cases only) ... ..	—	6
Malaria—Contracted in this country ... ..	—	—
Malaria—Contracted abroad ... ..	—	—
Malaria—Induced in Institutions† ... ..	—	—
Chickenpox ... ..	—	—
Measles (excluding German Measles or Rubella) ... ..	—	170
Whooping Cough ... ..	—	13
Other Diseases ... ..	—	—

**Cases removed to Hospital.**

Smallpox ... ..	—	—
Scarlet Fever ... ..	1	46
Diphtheria ... ..	—	12
Enteric Fever ... ..	—	3
Measles ... ..	—	1
Cerebro—Spinal Fever ... ..	—	1

† Notified under the proviso to Article 5 of the Public Health (Infectious Diseases) Regulations, 1927.

**Chickenpox** was not compulsorily notified in this district during the year 1942.

## Tuberculosis.

		New Cases				Deaths			
Age Periods		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
		M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5	...	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
15	...	1	1	1	1	1	—	—	1
25	...	1	2	—	1	—	—	—	—
35	...	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	—
45	...	2	2	—	—	1	—	—	—
55	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	...	4	6	3	3	2	—	—	1

### Immunization for Diphtheria.

The following leaflet was distributed in all the elementary schools:

#### Kirkburton Urban District Council.

Diphtheria is the commonest single cause of death among School-children. In one year there were nearly 3,000 such deaths and more than 61,000 cases in England and Wales.

It can safely be said most of these cases were avoidable and most of the deaths needless tragedies.

Modern preventive treatment is safe and provided free of cost. Its value has been proved beyond any reasonable doubt.

The treatment consists of two small injections at an interval of one month.

These injections are not painful and do not cause any illness.

No child over one year old should be unprotected against Diphtheria. **In Scotland last year, 1941, among 766,000 immunized children there was one death. Among 389,000 unprotected children there were 418 deaths.**



You are urgently asked to take advantage of this treatment which you can obtain free from:—

1. Your own Doctor;
2. The Child Welfare Clinic at Cowms Chapel, Lepton;
3. School Clinics as follows:

June 24	Lepton C., Kirkheaton Ch.
„ 25	Lepton N., Whitley Upper, Flockton Ch.
July 1	Shelley Ch., Shelley C.
„ 8	Thurstonland Ch., Farnley Tyas Ch.
„ 15	Shepley C., Kirkburton Ch.
„ 22	Kirkburton Modern, Highburton Ch.

A. TAIT,  
Medical Officer of Health.

As a result, 674, 360 under 5 years and 314 over 5 years, more children were immunized by the end of the year, an increase of protected children in the area from 35 per cent under 5's, 63 per cent over 5's to 74 per cent and 75 per cent respectively at the end of the year.

These figures include 86 treated at the County Welfare Clinic and 90 by private practitioners. The W.R.C.C. nurses and the teachers were very helpful in getting the children to come to the Clinics.

In only one of the 14 schools was the percentage of immunized children under 80 per cent and two schools Kirkburton Church and Farnley Tyas, had 96 per cent.

The material used was A.P.T., Dose .2c.c. and .5c.c.

7 cases of Diphtheria were notified (excluding the Storthes Hall cases) all in unprotected persons. There were no deaths from Diphtheria.

### **Scabies Order, 1941.**

In February the clinic for Scabies was opened at the Old Boys' Dressing Rooms at Waterloo. It was equipped with material from the closed Kirkburton Isolation Hospital. The W.R.C.C. nurses and Lepton District nurse have supervised the treatment. 71 cases have been treated, 35 adults, 36 under 16 years, with satisfactory results—only two families having a second treatment.



## **Reception of Evacuees.**

At the beginning of the year there were 242 evacuees in the area. During the year 110 children and 11 adults were received, consisting of 22 unaccompanied children from Shoreham, who were medically examined on arrival. The remainder were under 5's who came under the Yorkshire Aunties scheme and a few evacuated with the consent of their local authority.

Expectant mothers with children under 5 years are admitted to a convalescent home in Harrogate in the 8th month of pregnancy pending admission to a maternity home.

## **The Blood Donor Campaign.**

The Old Boys' Dressing Rooms at Waterloo were obtained for the use of the Blood Transfusion Service on July 24th when over 120 pints of blood were contributed to the pool supplying the Royal Navy, the R.A.F. Stations, Army Units and Hospitals in this region. Nurses from the First Aid Post at Kirkburton and the Lepton District Nurse assisted the Regional Staff.

## **A.R.P.**

The Kirkburton Urban District forms part of the Upper Agbrigg A.R.P. Area. In May, Mr. Arthur Nuttall was appointed Commandant. This appointment has increased markedly the efficiency of the service. The First Aid Service consists of a Fixed First Aid Post at Eldon House, Kirkburton, M.O., Dr. J. A. Stephens. Eight First Aid Parties with cars at the following Depots: Kirkheaton Old Council Rooms; Flockton Old Council Rooms; Lepton Old Council Rooms; Greavehouse; Shelley Barkhouse Chapel; Shepley Conservative Club; and Stockmoor, Town Moor Road. There are also nine First Aid Points manned by First Aid trained women at Lepton, Cowms Chapel; Lydgate Post Office; Grangemoor, at Mr. Abraham Schofield's; Farnley Tyas, The Cock; Thurstonland Old Council Rooms; Kirkheaton Old Council Rooms; Shelley, Barkhouse Chapel; Shelley Conservative Club; Flockton Old Council Rooms.

Ambulances—One ambulance and a car with trailer at Shepley, one ambulance at Kirkheaton.

A course of lectures on First Aid in Wartime was given to the Rescue Party.

The following Feeding and Shelter Centres were established the previous year by the W.R.C.C. at the Masonic Hall, Kirkburton; Cowms Chapel Sunday School; Primitive Methodist Sunday School, Grange-moor; and Church of England Day School, Kirkburton.

Yours obediently,

A. TAIT,  
Medical Officer of Health.





